

## **Envision Arlington Diversity Task Group**

Date: September 8, 2022

Time: 6:45 pm - 9:00 pm (official meeting start at 7PM)

## **Agenda**

- 1. Zoom Protocols, Review of Mission Statement and Group Meeting Protocols (5 mins.)
- 2. Catch up summer highlights (15 mins.)
- 3. Review of June meeting minutes (5 mins.)
- 4. Town Day Planning (hopefully less than 60 mins.)
- 5. DTG Updates / Actions to take re: events from the summer (30 mins.)

## **Minutes**

**Present:** Rebecca Gruber, Stephanie Ettinger de Cuba, Anne Licciardello, Katell Guellec, Kellye Eversole, Laurie Key

- Zoom Protocols, Review of Mission Statement, Group Meeting Protocols, and the Land acknowledgement were read.
- Catch up summer highlights
- Review of June meeting minutes-unanimous approval
- Town Day:
  - a. Website being updated; FB page getting updated, and posting on it will be more regular -- such as DTG meetings and things like Hunger Awareness Month (cross post with Arlington Eats)
  - b. Requirement of Envision Arlington is a one-pager for their board at Town Day, which

- Rebecca is doing.
- c. Interactive activity at our table: Ask a question and then write the answer on the flip board provided. Can then create a wordcloud and put on our website/FB. "In a word or phrase, how do you envision a more diverse Arlington?"
- d. Where do we fit? -- AHRC, AFR, Envision Arlington, etc. We've developed a flyer and it will also be on the tables of AHRC and AFR. There was discussion about the wording and design of the flyer. Changes made so on the front page it is clearer that the flyer is from DTG also to make the text colors easier to read.
- e. Can we use the mission statement that we have in the flyer: "Goal is to increase awareness, build community, and take action on issues that affect the historically marginalized among us." Or the one on our website: "We are a group of Arlington residents who are committed to making our town inclusive, fostering awareness, community, and action, and creating safe spaces where all voices are welcome."
  - What do we want to emphasize? Mention the word diversity? Also if we focus on 'historically marginalized groups,' does this prevent us from building a bridge to those who are not historically marginalized but are diverse in their viewpoints? Might consider 'advancing equity and inclusion' as a way to focus on systemic issues and bring people in. The point also was made that when we say 'welcome you," it can "other" people vs expressing that they already belong. Another idea is "brave space." Plan is to follow up at October meeting.
- f. Jillian Harvey coming in October. Also plan to invite APD's recovery staff person and/or social worker to come in Nov or Dec.
- g. Meeting with Doug Heim, Town atty: Committees and task groups do not fall under open meeting law. Guidelines need to be applied consistently across all committees and task groups. There may be a future meeting of the Envision Arlington Standing Committee and all task groups to discuss operating principles. Also Doug has offered to come to DTG to discuss further.
- h. New policy of not hanging any banners on Town Hall was passed by the Select Board. There may be follow up to have more conversation in Town around government speech.
- i. A Civilian Police Advisory Board is being established, and DTG can appoint one member to that board.